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PATENT 8

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November 5, 2001

Date

*Kelli J. Endreson*  
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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicants : Thomas L. Ritzdorf et al.  
Application No. : 09/902,491 Confirmation No.: 7344  
Filed : July 9, 2001  
For : METHODS AND APPARATUS FOR PROCESSING  
MICROELECTRONIC WORKPIECES USING METROLOGY

Art Unit : 2877

Docket No. : 291958165US

(Client Ref. No. P01-0044)

Date : November 5, 2001

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

PRELIMINARY AMENDMENT

Dear Commissioner:

Please amend the above-identified application as follows:

In the Specification:

Please add a new section directly before the "BACKGROUND" as follows:

CROSS-REFERENCE TO RELATED APPLICATIONS

This application is a continuation in part of the following U.S. patent applications: U.S. Patent Application No. 09/612,176, filed July 8, 2000; U.S. Patent Application No. 09/733,608, filed December 3, 2000; U.S. Patent Application No.

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